



# PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
445 12th STREET S.W.  
WASHINGTON D.C. 20554

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News media information 202-418-0500  
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov> (or <ftp.fcc.gov>)  
TTY (202) 418-2555

**Report No. SCL-00224NS**

**Friday August 24, 2018**

## **Non-Streamlined Submarine Cable Landing License Applications Accepted For Filing**

Unless otherwise specified, the following procedures apply to the applications listed below:

The applications listed below have been found, upon initial review, to be acceptable for filing. These applications are not subject to the streamlined processing procedures set forth in Section 1.767 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.767.

Unless otherwise specified, interested parties may file comments with respect to these applications within 28 days of the date of this public notice. We request that such comments refer to the application file number shown below.

Unless otherwise specified, ex parte communications between outside parties and Commission staff concerning these applications are permitted subject to the Commission's rules for "permit-but-disclose proceedings." See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206.

Copies of all applications listed here are available for public inspection in the FCC Reference and Information Center, located in room CY-A257 at the Portals 2 building, 445 12th Street SW, Washington DC 20554. The center can be contacted at (202) 418-0270. People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to [fcc504@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.gov) or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (tty). All applications listed are subject to further consideration and review, and may be returned and/or dismissed if not found to be in accordance with the Commission's rules, regulations, and other requirements.

## Amendment

Amendment filed by GCI Communication Corp. (GCICC or Applicant) to its application for a license to land and operate in the United States a non-common carrier fiber-optic submarine cable system connecting communities in Southwest Alaska and the Aleutian Islands - the TERRA-Aleutian cable system. See File No. SCL-LIC-20171031-00024, Public Notice, Streamlined Submarine Cable Landing License Applications Accepted for Filing, Report No. SCL-00206S (IB, rel. Dec. 7, 2017). Applicant amends the application to include updated routing and landing point information and updated ownership information for GCICC.

As amended, the TERRA-Aleutian cable system will now follow a southern route in Southwest Alaska and the Aleutian Islands and will connect Kodiak, Larsen Bay, Chignik, Perryville, Sand Point, King Cove, Cold Bay, False Pass, Akutan, Dutch Harbor, and False Pass. TERRA-Aleutian will have an initial design capacity of 800 Gbps per fiber. GCICC expects that TERRA-Aleutian will enter into commercial service in the first calendar quarter of 2020.

TERRA-Aleutian will now have a total length of 1456 kilometers with 15 segments: (1) Dutch Harbor to Akutan Branch Unit - 58.5 kilometers, 12 fiber pairs; (2) Akutan to Akutan Branch Unit - 27.3 kilometers, 12 fiber pairs; (3) Akutan Branch Unit to False Pass Branch Unit - 212 kilometers, 12 fiber pairs; (4) False Pass to False Pass Branch Unit - 44.2 kilometers, 12 fiber pairs; (5) False Pass Branch Unit to King Cove - 60.7 kilometers, 12 fiber pairs; (6) King Cove to Cold Bay - 43.1 kilometers, 6 fiber pairs; (7) King Cove to Sand Point - 175.9 kilometers, 6 fiber pairs; (8) Sand Point to Perryville Branch Unit - 118.4 kilometers, 9 fiber pairs; (9) Perryville to Perryville Branch Unit - 45.9 kilometers, 6 fiber pairs; (10) Perryville Branch Unit to Chignik Bay - 135.5 kilometers, 9 fiber pairs; (11) Chignik Bay to Larsen Bay Branch Unit - 326.8 kilometers, 6 fiber pairs; (12) Larsen Bay to Larsen Bay Branch Unit - 37.2 kilometers, 12 fiber pairs; (13) Larsen Bay Branch Unit to Kodiak - 135.7 kilometers, 6 fiber pairs; (14) Chignik Bay to Chignik Lagoon - 16.5 kilometers, 6 fiber pairs; and (15) Chignik Lagoon to Chignik Lake - 18 kilometers, 6 fiber pairs.

TERRA-Aleutian will have 12 landings, all in Alaska: (1) Akutan; (2) Dutch Harbor; (3) False Pass; (4) King Cove; (5) Cold Bay; (6) Sand Point; (7) Perryville; (8) Chignik Bay; (9) Chignik Lagoon; (10) Chignik Lake; (11) Larsen Bay; and (12) Kodiak.

GCIC will own and operate the whole of the TERRA-Aleutian, including the wet links and cable landing facilities (cable landing stations and beach manholes) for all twelve landings in Alaska.

GCICC proposes to operate the cable system on a non-common carrier basis. Applicant states that capacity will not be sold indifferently to the user public, but will be provided in bulk capacity to particular carrier, enterprise, and government users pursuant to individually-negotiated indefeasible rights of use (IRUs) and capacity leases, the terms of which will vary depending on the characteristics and needs of the particular capacity purchaser. GCICC states that the TERRA-Aleutian cable will allow it to continue to compete vigorously with the incumbent, Alaska Communications Systems Group, Inc. (ACS), in the intra-Alaska and Alaska-Lower 48 markets. In addition, the cable system will also allow GCICC to compete with existing providers' facilities, including satellite service providers: ACS, TelAlaska, Bristol Bat Telecom. AT&T, DSL, and HughesNet.

In addition, Applicant updated its ownership information. At the time it filed its application the Commission had approved a transfer of control of GCICC to GCI Liberty, Inc. See Joint Application of General Communication, Inc. and GCI Liberty, Inc. for Consent to Transfer Control, Memorandum Opinion and Order, WC Docket No. 17-114, 32 FCC Rcd 9349 (WCB/IB/WTB 2017). As a result of consummation of that transaction GCI Liberty became GCICC's ultimate parent. GCICC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of GCI Holdings, Inc., which in turn is wholly owned by Ventures Holdco, LLC, all three of which are Delaware entities. Ventures Holdco is wholly owned by GCI, LLC, an Alaska company, which is wholly owned by GCI Liberty, a Delaware corporation. Dr. John C. Malone, a U.S. citizen, holds an approximate 27% voting interest and an approximate 4% equity interest in GCI Liberty. GCI Liberty's shares trade publicly on the NASDAQ exchange. GCI Liberty has no other ten percent or greater direct or indirect voting or equity interest holders.

GCICC agrees to abide by the routine conditions specified in section 1.767(g) of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 1.767(g).

REMINDER:

Applicants must certify that neither the applicant nor any party to the application is subject to a denial of federal benefits by federal and/or state courts under authority granted in 21 U.S.C. § 862. See 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.2001–2003.

By this notice, we inform the public that submarine cable landing license applications that are part of larger transactions involving multiple Commission licenses or authorizations may involve "extraordinary circumstances" as referenced in Review of Commission Consideration of Applications under the Cable Landing License Act, Report and Order, 16 FCC Rcd 22167 (2001) and Rules and Policies on Foreign Participation in the U.S. Telecommunications Market, Report and Order and Order on Reconsideration, 12 FCC Rcd 23891 (1997), paras. 327-28, Order on Reconsideration, 15 FCC Rcd 18158 (2000). Additionally, extraordinary circumstances result where Executive Branch agencies petition the Commission to defer action on an application pending the resolution of potential national security, law enforcement, foreign policy and trade policy issues. Accordingly, these applications may not be acted on within the 90-day review period that the Commission has established as the period of time normally required to reach a decision on non-streamlined cable landing licenses. This notice shall serve as public notice to applicants that, in these circumstances, additional time may be required for Commission review and final action. No additional formal public notice will be provided routinely with respect to specific applications in the event that the applicable review period extends beyond 90 days.